



Superintendent's Corner

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Superintendent

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In Case You Missed the School Committee Meeting...

Sports Team Recognitions

The school committee recognized the following teams that were CAL – Baker's Division champs: Boy's Tennis, Softball, Baseball, Girl's Basketball, and Boys' Cross Country. The Boys' cross country team also won the state title for division IV. Mr. Gearin, the athletic director, also acknowledged the Girls' Tennis team for receiving the CAL division sportsmanship award.

Director of Finance and Operations

I presented my recommendation for the position of Director of Finance and Operations to the school committee. Ms. Joan Liporto is currently the director of finance and operations in Georgetown. She has a wealth of experience and will be a great addition to the staff. The school committee unanimously approved the recommendation to appoint Ms. Liporto.

Charter School Cap Resolution

The school committee unanimously voted to support a resolution against raising the cap on the number of charter schools. The committee agreed that the funding formula needs to be reevaluated before increasing the limit on enrollment or the number of charter schools.

Policy Update

The school committee approved a revised policy on the administration of medication. The previous policy was reviewed by the school nurses and was refined to better align with current best practices.

In Our Schools

The last week of school proved to be a very busy one for our students. There were a number of events and activities to celebrate the students and to acknowledge their accomplishments throughout the year. At the high school level, students were engaged in final exams – working hard up to the very last minute of school! Events at some of the other schools included:

Amesbury Elementary School

Grade Three Spelling Bee – Approximately 40 students from the third grade were selected as finalists for the grade three spelling bee. These students tackled some very challenging words, which included core spelling words from grade three, four and five spelling lists. I want to congratulate all students for their spelling prowess. Mr. McBrien shared a picture of the top three finishers (to the right).



Grade Four Showcase - There are some pretty talented 4th grade students at Amesbury Elementary School. This week, students took to the stage to show off their talents, which ranged from singing and dancing, to instrumental presentations, magic acts, and juggling. The audience was very entertained by all of the performances. I want to congratulate the students for having the courage to perform in front of their classmates.

Showcase Assembly – Monday morning, the school had a different type of showcase. This one



was a celebration of positive character traits; the fourth grade students develop and present the assembly. This month's assembly was on Friendship. Each grade-level had an opportunity to highlight friendship, through songs, poetry and performances. Also at this assembly, the school presented a check to the American Cancer Society for over \$2,500 that was raised as the students participated in a 'mini' relay for life. In the picture to the left, students are shown participating in the walk.

Grade Four and Kindergarten celebration – both the fourth grade and the kindergarten celebrated 'moving up'. The fourth grade students had a program on Thursday morning, where the students performed songs for their parents, family and friends; awards were also presented for various accomplishments. This morning, the kindergarteners performed for their parents around the flagpole. They sang a number of patriotic songs to celebrate their completion of kindergarten.

Cashman Elementary School

Grade Four and kindergarten celebration – Cashman students also celebrated moving up. The fourth grade class presented a performance to family and friends, using a campfire theme. The students sat around the campfire,



reminiscing about their experiences at Cashman and previewing some of what they might expect when they move on to the middle school. While our fourth graders were thinking about their transition from elementary to middle school, our kindergarteners were celebrating the completion of this school year and the transition to first grade. Under the direction of their teachers, the kindergarteners performed a variety of songs for family and friends this morning.

Amesbury Middle School

Last night, eighth grade students celebrated their completion of their middle school years with their families. Mr. Curry held a short promotion ceremony, which was followed by an eighth grade dance. The students were well behaved and danced the night away!



Amesbury Innovation High School

During my visit this morning to the Amesbury Innovation High School, students were celebrating the completion of another school year with a brunch. The Innovation High School is a special place that really promotes the sense of community, meets students where they are at emotionally, and challenges students to complete a rigorous academic program. It is my understanding that at the end of the day it was difficult to get the students to leave – so many of them view the school and staff as family.

As this year comes to a close, I want to wish all families a safe and happy summer season. While I do work through the summer, I don't anticipate that there will be my week in review. Not that you want to be thinking about school starting up again, but just as a heads up... schools open for students on August 31st!!!

Be well and have a great...summer!

Gary